Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Elmer Lekness was born on September 14, 1904, in Sisseton Township, to David and Sophie Lekness; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, In 1922, Elmer graduated first in his class from Sisseton High School, excelling in basketball, football and baseball. He also graduated from South Dakota State and taught school at the Lantry School District, Dewey County, and then worked for AT&T as a local manager and engineer, retiring 42 years later in 1969; and,

Whereas, Elmer married Ida Ost in 1934, and to that union, one son, Larry, was born; and,

Whereas, In 1972, Elmer married Elsie Dubs, who now resides at the Inn on Westport in Sioux Falls; and,

Whereas, Elmer will observe his 100th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his friends and relatives gather to honor him on September 12, 2004, at the Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Sioux Falls and celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 14, 2004, as

ELMER LEKNESS DAY

in South Dakota, and I join all his family and friends in wishing him a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State